

LOGNOTE -- Chief, Operations Group, 30 July 1984

1. (Williams) Talked to [] who is here briefly before starting at the National War College. Jim believes we will have no problems getting Swazi approval for use of the hilltop site for the remote antenna system. He has given Permanent Secretary Mamba a memo summarizing the proposal. Mamba is very easy to work with. He has served in the United State for four years--two years in New York and two in Washington, D.C.--and likes Americans. The site itself is public land used by the Swazi police for a couple police relays. There is also a Swazi Radio antenna on the site. There are no structures of any kind. Jim does not believe the Swazis will ask a fee for the use of this site. He believes the only charge will be for whatever electrical connections are necessary.

I asked about progress on South African TV. Jim says the problem, as we knew, was that SATV doesn't spill over the mountains into the valley where Mbabane and the bureau are located. Hadden had obtained an antenna booster in South Africa but it was unsuccessful; it brought in a picture but no sound. The local firm that had been asked to fabricate the antenna had got some other contracts and did not seem to be following through, and Hadden had been busy with other tasks. I said I would ask [] for an update on the project and it might be that we would have to have it reviewed by a Headquarters engineer. Jim suggested that the hilltop site might help with the SATV, but this is untested.

On local security, Jim says there really are no significant security problems in Mbabane, and there is little likelihood of violence since the capture in January of the gang who had burgled the Hadden house. He said that, owing to drought and problems upcountry, people from Mozambique were still drifting through and that to some extent local cultural traditions had been tending to break down since the death of the King, so law and order cannot be taken as much for granted as in the past. But the main problems will be theft or house breaking. Jim said that a dog is the best deterrent. He left his dog with Sue.

I asked Jim what he wanted to do after the War College. He will fill out a PPQ. He said he wouldn't mind DRD but he would just as soon keep on traveling. However, he thinks he would not want to receive a field assignment in 1987 when his son will be going into the senior year of high school.

(cc: D/FBIS, C/ED, C/MOD, AC/AS)

STAT

STAT